

FULFILLING OUR PROMISES

TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED

www.davchapter7.org

Support the advertisers in this newsletter, it's their sponsorship that makes this newsletter possible!

Monthly Newsletter September 2021

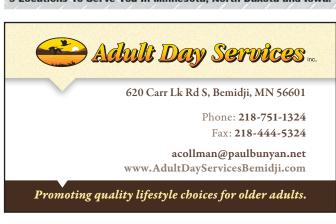
North Central MN Chapter #7 PO Box 564 Bemidji, MN 56619



NEXT MEETING: DAV Headquarters at 5441 15th Street NW, Bemidji, MN Monday, September 20th at 6:30pm







CHAPTER OFFICERS

COMMANDER: Gene Schwantes - (218) 556-4592

SENIOR VICE: Jeff Meyer

JUNIOR VICE: Tom Annonson

ADJUTANT: Darrel Baltzell

SERVICE OFFICERS: Scotty Allison

TREASURER: Scotty Allison - (218) 333-4178 CHAPLAIN: Mike Gutz - (218) 444-5015

JUDGE ADVOCATE: Jeri Harvey
SERGEANT AT ARMS: Bruce Tiegen
OFFICER OF THE DAY: Glenn Aagard
LEGISLATIVE OFFICER: Joe Vene
HISTORIAN: Vacant

EXEC. COMMITTEE: Bruce Tiegen, Mike Gutz, Andy Staudt

CH. #7 UPCOMING HOLIDAYS & EVENTS

Sept 2nd - V-J Day (Victory over Japan) 1945

Sept 6th - Labor Day

Sept 6th - Chapter Executive Committee meeting @ 1630 Hours

(possibly moved to the 13th)

Sept 11th - Patriot Day (Flags at half-staff until sunset)

Sept 12th - Grandparent's Day
Sept 17th - Constitution Day

Sept 17th - POW/MIA Recognition Day

Sept 20th - Chapter General Membership meeting @ 1830 Hours

Sept 22nd - First day of Autumn

Oct 11th - Columbus Day

Oct 23rd - The bombing of the Marine barracks in Beirut (1983)

Oct 31st - Halloween

Nov 7th - Daylight Savings Time ends

Nov 9th - World Freedom Day

Nov 9th - Fall of the Berlin Wall (1989)

Nov11th - Veteran's Day

Dec 31st -

Nov 25th - Thanksgiving Day

Dec 7th - Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

New Years Eve

Dec 21st - First day of Winter
Dec 25th - Christmas Day



COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hello Everyone,

I hope everybody is surviving the heat and nobody's well is going dry. I used to say that when it got over 80 degrees, people in northern Minnesota quit working, because it was too hot. This summer if you did that, you wouldn't get anything done. By the time you read this, it will be September, and we will probable want some of this heat back.

We need a **TREASURER** that knows Excel on the computer and is a member of DAV. Talk to your fellow veterans, somebody in our 600-member chapter must know something about computers, Excel, and finances. I believe that Scotty said that it only took 4 hours to do the yearend financial statement and we hire tax prepares to do the taxes. So, from somebody that doesn't know computers, it sounds like a pretty good program. Let's beat the bushes and find someone out there that is willing to take on this challenge.

We are starting to build inventory in our clothing program, so far this summer we have been getting more than one truck a month, thanks to Josh and Savers, but that can stop at any time. It is great to be getting these donations, it allows us to have the funds that we need to help our fellow veterans and their families.

Remember, at next month's general meeting, we will again be reading and voting on the recommended changes to our Constitution and Bylaws. This is your last chance for your input before they will be sent to DAV State and National for their approval, so plan on attending the meeting on September 20.

Today is 8/18/21, the DAV picnic is on 8/21/21, I do declare the picnic is a great success, great food, comradeship, music, and a good time had by all, if you didn't attend, you missed out for another whole year.

A fellow Veteran, Gene Schwantes













THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERAN NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER #7 REGULARLY CONVENED ON 16 AUGUST 2021 AT 1830.

OPENING CEREMONY: * OPENING PRAYER * PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. Roll Call of Officers to determine if quorum is present.

Commander	Gene Schwantes	Present
Senior Vice Commander	Jeff Meyer	Present
Junior Vice Commander	Tom Annonson	Present
Adjutant	Darrel Baltzell	Excused
Treasurer	Scotty Allison	Present
Chaplain	Mike Gutz	Present
Judge Advocate	Jeri Harvey	Present
Sergeant-At-Arms	Bruce Tiegen	Present
Officer of the Day	Glen Aagard	Present
Historian	Vacant	N/A

Note: Sandy Sterr filled in as meeting recorder due to the absence of Darrel Baltzell.

- B. Members Present: 15
- C. Introduction of Guests or Visitors: Brent Thomton was in attendanceto thank the Chapter 7 members for their \$500 donation to the PTSD group. They had a successful and fun four-wheeler tour around the countryside including a trip up to the "Lost 40."
- D. Minutes of Previous Meeting: The minutes of 19 July 2021 were read and approved.
- E. Treasurer's Report: Scotty Alison reported the present balance of \$283,119.54 for all accounts. The financial report for July 2021 was given. Motion to accept the report made by Randy Hanevold; seconded by Billy Woods. Motion approved.
- F. Communications: There were none.
- G. Committee Reports:
 - 1. Membership: Two new members were signed. 1 transfer form received for a Veteran from South Central Chapter #32.
 - 2. Service Officer: The groundbreaking ceremony for the planned Veterans Home will take place on August 26th. Scotty announced that he would need volunteers to help with parking at the event.
 - 3. Hospital/Sickness & Distress: Nothing to report.
 - 4. Legislative: Scotty Allison reported that there are three new presumptive conditions for gulf war veterans.
 - 5. Entertainment: Picnic plans have come together nicely and approximately 100 people will be attending.
 - 6. Publicity & Fund Raising: Tom Annonson reported donations at the fair booth totaled \$2,621.29 and, after expenses, the profit was \$2,200.
 - 7. Medical Equipment: There were 19 donations and 9 items issued.
- H. Executive Committee Action Items: There were none.

I. Old Business

- 1. The Constitution and Bylaws changes were presented to the members. All the changes were read to the group. It was recommended that the phrase "disabled in the line of duty during time of war" be changed by striking out the end of the phrase "during time of war." That change is found on page 10 of 13 under Article 13, Section 12 in the document. A motion to approve all changes was made by Jack McNamara and seconded by Scotty Allison. Motion approved.
- 2. Commander Gene Schwantes reported that the outlay for Veterans in need and Veteran organizations for fiscal year 2019/2020 was \$42,730.36. \$33,923.36 of that amount was given locally.

J. New Business

- 1. Treasurer's Position: There will be a vacancy in the treasurer's position in the near future. Gene asked the members to let him know if anyone knows of a person with the skills needed for this position. That person would need to know how to work in the Excel program and would have to be a DAV member.
- 2. Ginger Edwards, representing the Bemidji Senior Center, asked the membership to consider donating to the Senior Center as many Veterans make use of their facility and what they have to offer. A motion to donate \$2,000 was made by Billy Woods and seconded by Tom Annonson. Motion approved.
- 3. Executive Meeting Date Change: The September Executive Committee Meeting has been moved to September 13th.
- 4. Building Site Work: A bid for bobcat services for work at the building site was received from Kurt Davis Bobcat. He bid \$500 for site cleanup work and he bid \$250 for drainage work along the driveway. A motion was made to accept the bid of \$750 for the bobcat services. Motion made by Jeff Meyer and seconded by Andy Staudt.
- 5. Tom Annonson reminded everyone that articles for the newsletter must be in to him by Friday, Aug. 20th.
- 6. A request for car repairs for a Veteran has been received. Discussion ensued on this Veteran's particular situation and the membership agreed that the amount of up to \$400 for this repair bill was acceptable. Motion made by Jack McNamara and seconded by Glen Aagard. Motion approved.
- 7. Fall Conference: The fall conference will be held in Alexandria September 23rd through September 25th. Gene Schwantes and Darrel Baltzell would like to attend. This year's conference is focused on training. A motion to send Gene and Darrel to the conference was made by Scotty Allison and seconded by Jeff Meyer. Motion approved.
- 8. The Middle River Veterans Group sent our Chapter a nicely framed picture of the banner they display at the site of the annual goose hunt. It is a thank you to Chapter 7 for our support of the goose hunt.
- K. Good of the Order: Nothing to report.
- L. Closing Ceremonies performed.
- M. Motion to adjourn by Mike Gutz; seconded by Andy Staudt. Motion carried.
- > The meeting was adjourned at 1950 hours.
- > The next meeting will be held on 20 September 2021 at 1830 at the Chapter Headquarters.

Additional Sponsors Cease Funeral

Grimes Realty Lifequest Chiropractic Nei Bottling Zetah Construction





AUXILIARY COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hi Everyone!

North Central MN DAV Auxiliary Unit 7 met on 8/16/21, at 6:30, at the DAV building.

- 1. Linda Engesether and Ginger Edwards gave a few brief comments on the National Convention in Tampa, FL. It was very educational and of course HOT in Tampa in August.
- 2. Our Minnesota Fall Conference is in Alexandria, MN this year on September 23-25th. Linda Engesether, Ginger Edwards, and Lyndsey Moe are attending. If you want to attend, please contact an officer right way. Registration is \$75 and rooms are \$99 a night. This Fall conference will consists of many training sessions.
- 3. Prayers were requested for friends and family of members. Please pray, God knows who they are.
- 4. We received a new member application. We invite all DAV members and their families to join the Auxiliary.
- 5. The Beltrami County Fair DAV booth was a huge success. We are pleased that at least 5 auxiliary members helped in the booth. Thanks much to Tom Annonson for arranging and setting up the booth.
- 6. The new VA home will have its groundbreaking ceremony on August 26, 2021. We don't know the time yet. Such exciting news for our community and our veterans.
- 7. We are hoping to restart our Christmas gifts for veterans in homes. We need to check with the local nursing homes for approval.
- 8. The DAV/DAVA picnic will be held on Saturday, August 21, we have almost 100 people signed up and hope everyone enjoys it. We plan on both indoor and outdoor seating.

Our next meeting will be on September 20, at 6:30 in the DAV building. Please come and bring a friend too.

Blessings to all,

Ginger Edwards











- BEMIDJI VAN - 2021 **DAV NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION DATES**



JANUARY								
S M T W T F S								
					1	2		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
31								

FEBRUARY							
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28							

WARCH							
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31				

APRIL							
S	S M T W T F						
				1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30		

	MAY							
S	M	M T W T F						
						1		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
30	31							

JUNE								
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S		
		1	2	3	4	5		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
27	28	29	30					

JULY								
S	S M T W T F							
				1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		

AUGUST							
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30	31					

SEPTEMBER							
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S	
			1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER							
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S	
					1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31							

NOVEMBER								
M	Т	W	Т	F	S			
1	2	3	4	5	6			
8	9	10	11	12	13			
15	16	17	18	19	20			
22	23	24	25	26	27			
29	30							
	M 1 8 15 22	M T 1 2 8 9 15 16 22 23	M T W 1 2 3 8 9 10 15 16 17 22 23 24	M T W T 1 2 3 4 8 9 10 11 15 16 17 18 22 23 24 25	M T W T F 1 2 3 4 5 8 9 10 11 12 15 16 17 18 19 22 23 24 25 26			

DECEMBER						
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Free Rides To All Veterans and Caregiver (if needed)!

Northwest Transportation MN DAV Bemidji-Fargo Trips • Pick-up Points:

Bemidji National Guard Armory • Solway in front of bar • Shevlin in front of bar • Bagley Tesoro Station west end of town Fosston at LaPiere's on the east end of town • Mahnomen Cenex park south of propane tank • Ada Country Store

TO SCHEDULE RIDES FOR HIGHLIGHTED YELLOW AREAS:

Call 1-855-277-9787 and follow voice prompts to leave a message. If you have problems leaving a message call Saddoris at 218-209-1863 (cell). Volunteer Drivers Needed! Call Saddoris for info.











CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

On the day of this writing, the weekend of 15-16 Aug 2021, you may all know by the time you receive this newsletter; Kabul and the entire country of Afghanistan has now fallen under the control of the Taliban.

Just as Job's three friends were speechless (Job 2:11-13 NIV), many veterans and their families are at a loss for words, including Julie and me. My prayer for everyone who has worked, served, and sacrificed in any and all ways since 911 and during this Global War on Terrorism be given time to disbelieve and grieve as we all come to terms with the events of this past weekend. Yet at the same time I ask each of us to reaffirm our comfort to one another and our trust in God as He comforts us through His words:

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil for you are with me. (Psalm 23)NIV

Mike and Julie Gutz

UPCOMING DAV MN OUTDOOR EVENTS

The Minnesota DAV Department's Outdoor program has scheduled their upcoming events and posted them on their website. Check them out at:

https://davmn.org/events-activities/events-for-veterans/



Law Offices of FULLER, WALLNER, CAYKO, PEDERSON & HUSEBY, LTD. 514 America Ave., P.O. Box 880 Bemidji, MN 56619-0880

800-552-6881 www.lawofficemn.com

Office Phone: Fax Number: 218-751-2221 218-751-2285







2000 Paul Bunyan Dr NW, Bemidji, MN 56601

(218) 444-1400





DAV NEWS RELEASE

INTRODUCING OUR NEW NATIONAL COMMANDER

Combat-wounded Vietnam War veteran and Huntington, WV, native Andrew Marshall was unanimously elected national commander of the more than 1-million-member DAV (Disabled American Veterans) today at the organization's 2021 National Convention in Tampa, Florida.

"After more than a year of fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, I couldn't be prouder to be in a position to help DAV as we continue to help veterans transition back to normal," said Marshall.

As an airborne infantryman serving with the American Division in the KheSanh Valley in Vietnam in December 1970, Marshall was injured by friendly fire while engaged in enemy combat. After two weeks of recovery, he was transferred to the 173rd Airborne Brigade and returned to the field. On patrol in January 1971, he stepped on an improvised booby trap. The explosion injured his lower extremities, resulting in the amputation of two toes and extensive damage to his left leg.



Marshall was medically retired from the Army having received the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, and Army Commendation Medal with "V" device. He went on to join DAV's professional ranks as a benefits specialist, supervisor, and leader, dedicating 41 years to serving his fellow veterans and their families. "I'm honored to pick up the torch after National Commander Stephen Whitehead carried it for two years, the first time a commander has done so since World War II. As we get back to business, I'm encouraged by the tenacity of our members and our fellow veterans all across this nation," said Marshall. "We will continue to fight to make sure all of their voices are heard as we protect their benefits and advocate for legislation to improve the lives of all veterans." As supervisor of DAV's national service office in Bay Pines, Florida, Marshall initiated a claim on behalf of a veteran that ultimately resulted in a change to national Department of Veterans Affairs policy by allotting multiple clothing allowances for amputees and other severely disabled veterans.

Marshall served for three years on the Florida Veterans Advisory Committee and was also assigned to the DAV Judicial Appeals Office in Washington, D.C.

"We've had a tough couple of years, and many times we've had to adapt quickly to unexpected hurdles," said DAV CEO Marc Burgess. "Commander Marshall has been a pivotal leader for our organization, and I look forward to seeing how far he can take us as our national commander."









Bemidji Chapter 7

Disabled American Veterans

North Central Minnesota Chapter #7 P.O. BOX 564 BEMIDJI, MN 56619-0564 NON-PROFIT ORG U.S. POSTAGE PAID MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 56601 PERMIT NO. 71

Printed by Arrow Printing Inc. • Bemidji, MN

If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, please send your email address to the organization at mndavchapter7@gmail.com or call or text Tom Annonson @ 218-251-3025







